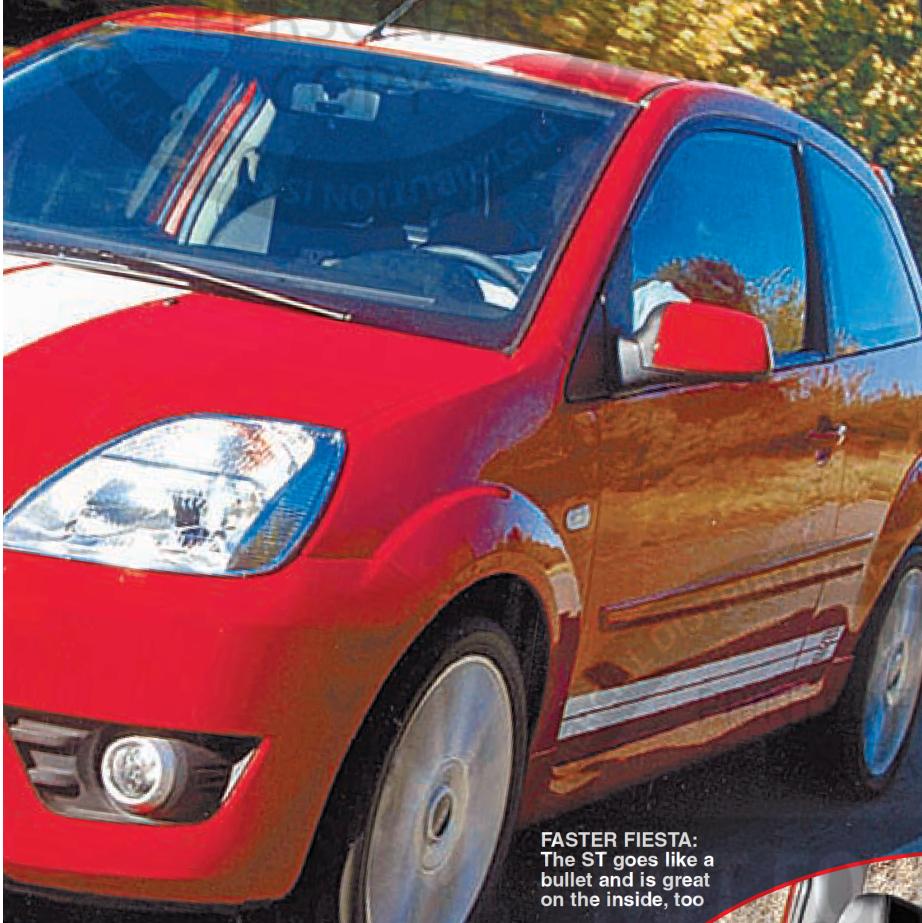




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IT'S touch and go whether 2004 will be a fourth successive record year for car sales. However, one firm is already celebrating, because Hyundai had already sold more cars by the end of October this year than they did in the whole of 2003. Out of a total of 32,631 so far, the star performer has been the brilliant little Hyundai Getz, with Britons buying up 13,423 of the things. Another car in demand is the excellent Hyundai Coupe, which outsold both the Toyota Celica and Audi TT by clocking up 4,334. New SUV, the Tucson, sold 1,079 in just two and a half months, followed by the Santa Fe, Matrix and Trajet. This January sees the arrival of the great looking new Coupe, so things could get even better.

# earns its



**FASTER FIESTA:**  
The ST goes like a bullet and is great on the inside, too

door-pulls, while ST badges are stitched into the leather sports seats.

The three-stack CD-radio unit is silver, and set on a shiny black wood-alike background, while the instruments, with silver surrounds and black faces, have matching ST badge red needles.

All the surrounding trim is taken up by four different mottled-effect surfaces, and when the whole picture is put together the result is smart, racy, bright and not in the least bit tacky. It's great.

#### **Stuffed**

Now if you open the ST's bonnet you won't see any daylight down there. And that's because it's stuffed full of a 2.0-litre Mondeo unit that's been tweaked up to 147bhp. Not bad for a Fiesta.

Start the engine and you can hear the exhaust burling away at the back. So you do what every ST owner will do, and floor it.

The result is electric, as 0-60mph comes up in a shade less than eight seconds.

This little monster rockets off, wailing all the way to 7,300rpm as it hits 40 in first, 65 in second and 90mph in third. There's still two gears left and 130mph on offer, but

in the twisty hills of Northern Italy, where the car was launched, that didn't seem like a good idea.

In mid-range there's instant power on offer, making this a seriously quick machine, while the noise from the engine is harsh, but still sporty.

Ford chose the same area to show off the fabulous handling of the new Focus and for obvious reasons they stuck with it for the Fiesta ST, which stands for Sports Technical.

This really is a sharp car. The steering is quick and positive.

*It reacts well to every flick and despite the lump under the bonnet it displays huge levels of grip.*

The gear-change is short and neatly clunks into position, so you just point and fire.

Over bumpy surfaces its stiffened-up suspension makes it bounce around quite badly, but on normal roads the ride is quite smooth for a pocket rocket.

Overall, considering this type of performance, and an average 38mpg, it's excellent but there were also a few things that annoyed me.

On right-hand-drive models your left knee is constantly jammed into the bottom of the dash, and the seat

belt holders are so far back you have to twist right back to reach them. Worst of all, though, the windscreen pillars are too wide and obstruct your view round bends. It's a fault with a lot of new cars these days.

Even so, though, I really liked the Fiesta ST.

It's fast, it's fun, it's well-made and it's perfect for the youngsters it's aimed at.

*Shame they won't be able to afford the insurance. It'll be a nightmare.*



**I'LL RAV SOME OF THAT:** New 4x4 is stunningly equipped

## Toyota's luxury Rav to rave over

THIS is good value? It's the new top-of-the-shop Rav4 from Toyota, and it's called the XT5.

Well, that's how you'd say it, but for some imbecilic reason Toyota write it like this ... XT5. How bloody annoying is that?

Oh well, a daft name doesn't make it a daft car. All XT5s (doesn't that look stupid?) are four-wheel-drive and come with a massive range of kit that turns them into luxury off-roaders.

In no order at all there's full

leather trim, heated seats, satellite navigation, anti-glare rear-view mirror, silver kick-plates, climate control, leccy sunroof, CD-stereo with steering wheel controls, 16-inch alloys with locking nuts, roof rails and fancy matching colour-coded bumpers, along with four brake and engine safety systems.

Prices start at £17,245 which, I suspect, means that by the time the XT5 goes on sale on December 1, there will already be a substantial waiting list.

## GIVE US A STEER

**Q** WHEN do manufacturers have to comply with the introduction of daytime running lights – like those fitted to Volvos and Saabs – and when is driving with lights on going to be compulsory in the UK?

**A** As far as we know, there are no plans to make either measure law.

Scandinavian cars use them because their days are shorter and darker than ours. However, using dipped lights during daytime in winter makes you more visible to other drivers, especially when overtaking.

**Q** I'm looking for a large diesel estate for around £7,000. Is there anything you recommend?

**A** Several models are well suited to your needs. The Peugeot 406 2.0 110bhp estate is modern and economical – your budget should pick up an 01/51 with 40,000 miles.

Or there's the Mercedes C-Class. £7k buys a 66,000-mile C220D Elegance, with a five-speed auto box, on a 1998/R plate. The Merc is older but will depreciate more slowly and has a reputation for solid reliability. If you're going for a car with higher mileage, try to find one with the reassurance of a full Mercedes-Benz service history.

## PARKER'S CAR GUIDES

Your motoring questions answered by the experts [www.parkers.co.uk](http://www.parkers.co.uk)

**Q** THE numbers 05 could easily be mistaken as the letters OS, so when the 05 registration hits the streets next March you'll probably see quite a few wacky plates. However, if you've already thought one up, you don't have to wait until then. In fact the DVLA start selling them on December 1, starting at £499. If there's something special you want you can view it on [www.dvlaRegistrations.co.uk](http://www.dvlaRegistrations.co.uk) or you can order it on 0870 6000 142.

**Q** Meanwhile, here are a few I thought of that could be worth considering: AP05TLE (vicars); BL05SOM (flower sellers); BO05TED (turbo drivers); CL05ING (shop-keepers); CL05EST (loved ones); CL05ETS (pervs); CR05SES (Ryan Giggs); FL05SED (dentists); GH05TLY (ghosts); LO05EST (Ulrika Johnson); RO05TER (Bernard Matthews); SL05SHED (George Best, Chris Evans) and finally TW05OME (me and 'er).



# MOTOR MOUTH

**EXTRA**

Edited by  
**GEORGE FOWLER**



ESTATE OF THE  
ART: New A6  
Avant has power to  
match its looks

## Audi's new animal

WE call them estates, Audi call them Avant (whatever that means), Peugeot badge theirs as SW (which they say means absolutely nothing at all), while BMW have the cleverest line of all in "Sports Tourers".

Well whatever you call them, an estate is an estate. They're practical, they're great at towing caravans, or putting labradors in the back, and they look like bungalows.

At least, most of them do, but not this one. It's the new Audi A6 Estate (sorry Avant) which is

so scary and aggressive at the front that you'd probably feel like pulling over and letting it pass anyway, even if it was towing a caravan.

It goes on sale around next February, with prices starting from my guesstimate of £26,000 for a 2.4-litre and rising to around £44,000 for a ludicrous 335bhp 4.2-litre V8, which hits 0-60 in less than seven seconds and has a limited top speed of 155mph.

So whether it was towing a caravan or not, you'd still get overtaken.

## Ford boss fury at 'joke' survey

**FORD** chairman Roger Putman has thrown a foul-mouthed fit over a survey that branded some dealers guilty of shoddy work.

The furious UK boss even condemned the Consumers Association as "a load of bastards", after they conducted an undercover operation into garage servicing.

Out of 48 garages they investigated, selling new or used motors, the CA claimed that three out of four had missed faults and not carried out work properly.

One Ford garage, Sky Ford of Croxley Green, Herts, finished near the bottom of the survey with a rating of "below par", but Brooklyn Ford, in Redditch, Warks, finished near the top and was labelled "very

good". But Putman claims the CA chose the motor trade because it's an easy target, after High Street banks refused to let them investigate the way they treat customers.

He stormed: "This is a complete joke. They just picked on a few garages out of thousands and called it a survey."

### Effort

"If they knew how much effort we put in to making sure our servicing is top rate, they'd have to think again."

"When you're dealing with hundreds of thousands of people each day you're bound to get the odd complaint, but they expect to find complete perfection. As far as I'm con-

cerned they can stuff their survey, and if they expect any help from me they can forget it. It's a load of bollocks."

The CA remain firm about their findings. A spokesman said that many garages missed basic faults and poor workmanship was commonplace.

**He added:** "A widespread trick is carrying out work that doesn't need doing."

"About a quarter of the garages we looked at did this to some extent, while a huge 67 per cent of garages failed to pick up pre-existing faults in cars, such as nails in tyres."

"Another 69 per cent failed to spot faults deliberately introduced by investigators, such as split windscreen wiper blades. Several mechanics skimped on basic essentials like checking the brakes."

"This type of practice means garages service more cars and make more money, but it may leave motorists with potentially unsafe cars."

Renault, Toyota, Nissan, Vauxhall and Peugeot dealers also fared badly in the survey.

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**■ NEW car prices in the UK have gone up by 3.1 per cent over the past year, averaging £402 per car, according to used car experts Glass. Biggest increases have been in the compact family hatchback range (Astra, Focus, Mégane, etc), where prices have risen by 5.9 per cent. People carriers (Galaxy, Sharan etc)**

**have gone up by five per cent, but large executive models, such as the Audi A6 and BMW 5 Series have seen their list prices remain unchanged over the past year.**

**The only sector to see a fall is 4x4/SUVs, such as the RAV4. New car prices have gone up each year since 2000, but increases are now higher.**

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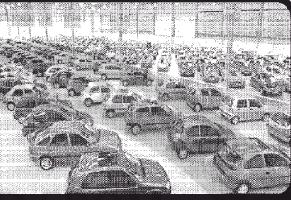
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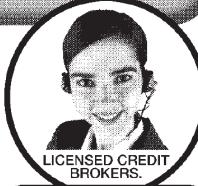
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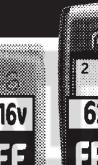
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## EXETER ON BBC2 COMMENTARY ON 09055 141 601 (611) AT THE RACES

**TOP TRAINERS** (with runners) P Hobbs 50 winners, (19% strike rate), £67.18, M Pipe 47, (17%), £46.42, P Nicholls 30, (19%), £34.54, R Almer 18, (13%), £10.20, Miss H Knight 15, (21%), £44.04, K Bishop 14, (19%), £23.52, A King 6, (18%), £3.32, J Williams 6, (19%), £10.73, Mrs S Williams 6, (13%), £5.70, J C Tuck 5, (6%), £9.00, C G Cox 4, (44%), £45.50.

**1.20** williamhillcasino.com NOVICES' HURDLE Class D (8 flights) 2m1f (9 runners) £5,746

**SAY WHAT YOU SEE** (16)(BF,G) M Pipe 4 11.4.....T Scudamore 106  
KADAM (17) P Nicholls 4 10.12.....R Walsh 21  
KELTIC ROCK (191) J A Gake 5 10.12.....P Flynn  
MEADOW HAWK (4)(B\*) I Williams 4 10.12.....N Fehily  
RACING DEMON (26)(BF,D,S) Miss H Knight 4 10.12.....W Marston 100  
TANTERARI (260)(S) M Pipe 6 10.12.....T J Murphy 74  
THEME PARK (F284)(T) S Burrough 4 10.12.....S Stronge  
THIEVES' GLEN (314) H Morrison 6 10.12.....A Thornton \*114  
LOVELY LULU (227) J C Tuck 6 10.5.....J Mogford  
Star Betting:— 13-8 Say What You See, 11-4 Racing Demon, 11-2 Thieves' Glen, 13-2 Tantari, 10 Kadam, Keltic Rock, 33 Theme Park, 50 others.

2003: Ashley Brook, 5-10-12, (R Greene, 12-1) K Bishop, 16 ran.

**STARFORM: RACING DEMON Danger: Say What You See**

**1.50** WILLIAM HILL ON 0800 44 40 40 HANDICAP HURDLE Class D (8 flights) 2m1f (7 runners) £10,166

**MISTER FLINT** (7)(C,F,G) P Hobbs 6 11.12.....P Flynn 94  
BARREN LANDS (9)(D3,G,S) K Bishop 9 10.12.....P J Brennan (3) 77  
DOCE VIDA (145)(BF,A,F,S) A King 6 10.12.....W Hutchinson (3) \*105  
MURAT (274) M Pipe 4 10.11.....T J Murphy 89  
MONTE CINTO (18)(D,F,S) P Nicholls 4 10.11.....R Walsh 83  
ONCE SEEN (212)(S) O Sheword 4 10.4.....J A McCarthy 82  
SOVEREIGN'S GIFT (517)(D,F) Mrs S Williams 8 10.0.....A Tinkler (3) —

LONG HANDICAP: Sovereign's Gift 9-12.

Star Betting:— 9-4 Mister Flint, 11-4 Monte Cinto, 4 Doc Vida, 9-2 Murat, 9 Sovereign's Gift, 20 Barren Lands, Once Seen.

2003: No corresponding race.

**STARFORM: MISTER FLINT Danger: Doc Vida**

## WINDSOR ON BBC2 COMMENTARY ON 09055 141 602 (612)

## TONY LEWIS

1.00 ANAGLYPTA NOVICES' HURDLE Class E (10 flights) 2m4f (9 runners) £3,650  
DALON (17)(B) D B Feek 5 10.12.....James Davies (3) —  
IN THE PARK (325)(BF,S) Jonjo O'Neill 7 10.12.....M A Fitzgerald —  
KIFTSGATE (15) Mrs P Robson 7 10.12.....J Tizzard 43  
MAXIMUMUS (20) M Midgwick 4 10.12.....R Lucy-Butler (7) \*89  
MEL IN BLUE (23)(G) R Waley-Cohen 6 10.12.....Mr S Waley-Cohen (7) —  
OUR SAMSON (17)(G) G L Moore 4 10.12.....P Hide —  
PHONE BACK (18) G L Moore 5 10.12.....J E Moore —  
TROOPER KIT (16)(B\*) Mrs L Richards 5 10.12.....M Batchelor —  
ZAFFRE D'OR (629) M Pitman 7 10.12.....C Leveque (10) —  
Star Betting:— 13-8 In The Park, 4 Mel In Blue, 9-2 Our Samson, 11-2 Maximumus, 7 Zaffre D'Or, 16 Phone Back, 25 Kifsgate, 33 others.  
2003: He's The Boss, 6-10-12, (B Hitchcock, 5-1) R Buckler, 10 ran.

**STARFORM: IN THE PARK Danger: Mel In Blue**

**1.30** VYMURA HANDICAP CHASE Class D (18 fences) 3m (7 runners) £5,363

**CURTINS HILL** (20)(D4,F,G,S) T George 10 11.12.....J M Maguire 101  
METAL DETECTOR (19)(D3,F,G,S,P) K Bailey 7 11.11.....J P McNamara 88  
COUNT CAMPIONI (286)(D,F,G,S) M Pitman 10 11.10.....B J Crowley 89  
EVEN MORE (16)(BF,D4,F,G) R Almer 9 11.6.....R Walford (3) \*110  
GLANAMANA (644)(D,S) B Powell 8 10.13.....J Tizzard —  
MONTY'S DOUBLE (196) O Sheword 7 10.10.....O Nelmes (5) 98  
TOMIC (13)(G) F F 2/65 Miss A M Newton-Smith 9 10.0.....C Bolger (3) —  
LONG HANDICAP: Tomic 9-12.

Star Betting:— 11-4 Count Campioni, 10-3 Curtins Hill, 4 Even More, 5 Monty's Double, 13-2 Glanamana, 10 Metal Detector, 16 Tomic.

2003: Ray Source, 8-10-7, (Paul Molone, 10-1) I Williams, 5 ran.

**STARFORM: CURTINS HILL Danger: Count Campioni**

**HOWARD JOHNSON** added another high-profile horse to his County Durham-based string yesterday when leaving the Doncaster November Sales with Vodafone Derby fourth Percussionist at a cost of 340,000 guineas. Formerly owned by the Sangster family, Percussionist will now race in the colours of Graham Wylie, who already owns the likes of proven performers Inglis Drever and Royal Rosa.

**TOP JOCKEYS** (with mounts) A Thornton 14 winners, (10% strike rate), £23.30, R Walsh 11, (22%), £12.76, T J Murphy 11, (12%), £11.82, P J Brennan 6, (14%), £13.00, W Marston 5, (11%), £18.00, T Scudamore 4, (8%), £37.33, J A McCarthy 4, (8%), £22.75, R Young 3, (12%), £86.00, N Fehily 3, (7%), £10.00.

**BBC2 2.25** WILLIAM HILL CHASE (B) (17 fences) 2m7f/1f (4 runners) £37,700

**BEST MATE** (246)(C2,D3,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 9 11.10.....T J Murphy 160  
**SEEBALD** (17)(F,G,S) M Pipe 9 11.6.....T Scudamore 138  
**SIR REMBRANDT** (20)(BF,B,G,S) R Almer 8 11.6.....A Thornton \*163  
**FRENCHMAN'S CREEK** (937)(BF,G,S) H Morrison 10 11.0.....R Walsh —  
Star Betting:— 8-13 Best Mate, 7-4 Sir Rembrandt, 16 Seebald, 20 Frenchman's Creek.

2003: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM

**BEST MATE** was undone by testing ground when beaten on his reappearance, but he has been a consistent performer this year and I expect this today. Wimberley Gold Cups, Henrietta Knight's superstar will need to look to his laurels again as he recoups with a 10% strike rate. Sir Rembrandt with 10% strike rate, has been a sketchy jumper these days but did little wrong when beaten 5th receiving 18lb from Azertyloip here last month. Sir Rembrandt's record is far from the best on the occasion but I found him true in running and the former's record is far from the month.

## STARFORM: BEST MATE Danger: Sir Rembrandt

**3.00** williamhill.co.uk NOVICES' CHASE Class C (17 fences) 2m7f/1f (8 runners) £8,580

**OUT THE BLACK** (8)(C2,D5,G) P Hobbs 6 11.8.....P J Brennan (3) 94  
**LIMERICK LEADER** (7)(D2,G,S,V) P Hobbs 6 11.4.....N Fehily \*99  
**ALEXANDER THE GREAT** (248)(C,D,S) P Nicholls 6 10.12.....R Walsh —  
**COMBAT DRINKER** (31)(D,G) P Nicholls 6 10.12.....S Stronge —  
**I HEAR THUNDER** (15) R Buckley 6 10.12.....P Flynn 95  
**NOBLE BARON** (227)(C3,G,S) C G Cox 8 10.12.....A Thornton —  
**NO COLLUSION** (583)(BF,G,S) Miss H Knight 8 10.12.....T J Murphy —  
**SONNANT** (31)(G) C Mann 5 10.11.....D Crosse (3) 52  
Star Betting:— 5-2 Out The Black, 3 Alexanderthegreat, 7-2 I Hear Thunder, 12 Combat Drinker, 3 Sonnant.

2003: Muck Savage, 6-10-12, (N Fehily, 40-1) C Mann, 6 ran.

## STARFORM: OUT THE BLACK Danger: Limerick Leader

**2.05** LIFE FROM COLOROLL NOVICES' HURDLE Class E 3m1f/1f (9 runners) £3,513

**ALFIE'S SUN** (19)(G) D Cantillon 5 11.4.....S Durack 34  
**AVANTI** (F211) Dr J Naylor 8 10.12.....R Walford (3) —  
**BLANK CANVAS** (22) K Bailey 6 10.12.....J P McNamara \*46  
**HEIR TO BE** (F209) Mrs L Wadham 5 10.12.....L Aspell —  
**JET MAGIC** (236) A King 4 10.12.....R Thornton —  
**THEPRIDEFOIREANN** (9)(T) Jom O'Neill 5 10.12.....M A Fitzgerald —  
**TWO HUGES** (26) N Twiston-Davies 6 10.12.....C Llewellyn —  
**WHAT'S GOOD** (19)(T) K Bailey 6 10.12.....R Hobson (3) —  
**KINGS BAY** (251)(S) H Morrison 5 10.5.....J Crowley —  
Star Betting:— 4-7 Alfie's Sun, 10-3 Kings Bay, 5 Jet Magic, 8 Heir To Be, 10 Thepridefoireann, 14 Blank Canvas, Two Hugs, 20 others.  
2003: Keepers Mead, 5-10-12, (R Walford, 9-2) R Almer, 6 ran.

## STARFORM: ALFIE'S SUN Danger: Kingsbay

**BBC2 2.40** CROWN WALLCOVERINGS HCAP CHASE (D) (12 fences) 2m (6 runners) £6,734

**JURADO EXPRESS** (61)(D3,F,S) Miss V Williams 8 11.12.....S Thomas (3) 116  
**MONTE CRISTO** (14)(D2,G,S,V) Mrs L Taylor 6 11.12.....M Foley 101  
**HORS LA LOI** (27)(D3,F,S) I Williams 8 11.10.....D R Dennis 114  
**MARKED MAN** (145)(BF,D2,F,G,S) R Lee 8 11.10.....R Thornton 101  
**MASTER REX** (23)(D4,F,G,S) B De Haan 9 11.10.....B Fenton 93  
**ABALVINO** (237)(D3,G,S,T) P R Weather 10 10.13.....T Doyle \*119  
Star Betting:— 5-2 Monte Cristo, 7-2 Hors La Loi, 4 Master Rex, 5 Marked Man, 6 Jurasco Express, 8 Abalvino.  
2003: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM

Calatagan at levels (Cheltenham 2m1f 10yds) has been a consistent performer this year and I expect him to continue his winning streak this time. He has the most recent start over fences, had earlier shown an aptitude for this game when completing a double with a 31 success giving 4lb to Ladakho (Wincanton 2m 10yds ch/gch/soft). Master Rex is relatively unexposed over fences winning two from five. He made an encouraging reappearance over hurdles when about 14f 4th of 21 to Venuela Williams.

## STARFORM: MONTE CRISTO Danger: Hors La Loi

**KEY TO THE CARDS:** our racecards are designed to give you a better, easier to understand guide to the runners. Brackets after the racecard number indicate the draw in Flat races. Figures in brackets after each horse's name indicate the number of days since the horse last ran. (C) indicates a course winner, (D) indicates a winner over the same distance as today's race. (B) or (V) indicates that the horse wears blinkers or a visor. (T) indicates that the horse wears a tongue strap. \* indicates if wear blinkers or visor for first time. (P) indicates that the horse is wearing a Cheek Piece. (BF) stands for beaten favourite, (F) is winner on firm going, (G) on good going, (S) on soft going and (A) on the all weather. The figures in the last column after the jockey's name is an exclusive Clockform rating giving a guide to the horse's chance. The highest figure denotes the top rated, which is also pinpointed by a \*.

Calls cost 6p per min from a BT landline

## TONY LEWIS

**1.20** SAY WHAT YOU SEE (16)(BF,G) Miss H Knight 9 11.10.....T J Murphy 160  
**MONTE CINTO** (11)(C) P Hobbs 9 11.10.....S Durack 34  
**BEST MATE** (225) (2.5m 11.10) 3.00 OUT THE BLACK  
**CHARLES FUTURE** (33) 4.00 ROLLO (4) (2.5m 11.10) 4.00 ROLLO (4)

**STARFORM** 2.05 (Wind) Alfie's Sun (nb); 2.25 (Exeter) Best Mate (treble); 2.50 (Wolverhampton) Corniche Dancer (nap).

**CLOCKFORM** 2.25 Sir Rembrandt 2pt win

**ROTWEILER** 1.20 Racing Demon 1.50 Monte Cinto 2.25 Best Mate 3.00 out The Black 3.25 Barton Baron 4.05 Rollo.

**GOING: Chs: Gd-Gd to Sft in Plcs:Hdls: Gd to Sft JACKPOT & PLACEPOT:** First six races.

**3.35** williamhillpoker.com NOVICES' HANDICAP CH Class E (15 fences) 2m3f/1f (9 runners) £4,826

**1** 1PP-2 D Elsworth 7 11.12.....R Young (3) 52  
**2** 4332-4 S Burrough 6 11.11.....A Thornton 86  
**3** 040-41 P Nichols 9 11.11.....R Walsh 72  
**4** 4125P-5 K George 9 10.9.....A Honeyball (3) 65  
**5** P000-1 R Dearing 6 10.8.....N Fehily 82  
**6** 064P-6 G Ham 8 10.1.....P Flynn —  
**7** 303/UP-7 O Sherwood 6 10.1.....J A McCarthy 34  
**8** 054-5 FP066 Miss H Knight 6 10.0.....T J Murphy \*103  
Star Betting:— 7-4 Parson Ploughman, 9-2 Barton Baron, 11-2 Charles Future, 7 Backseat, 8 Royal China, 9 Big Max, 10 Topol, 25 others.  
2003: No corresponding race.

**STARFORM: PARSON PLOUGHMAN Danger: Backbeat**

**4.05** williamhill.com NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE Class E (11 flights) 2m6f/1f (8 runners) £4,371

**1** 10-521 KAROO (1) P Nichols 6 11.12.....R Walsh 71  
**2** 05-232 ROLLO (8)(BF,B) A Hobbs 6 11.12.....P J Brennan (3) \*80  
**3** 0000-2 GREY SHARK (16) Keane 5 11.6.....N Fehily 63  
**4** R55P-4 VALLEY WARRIOR (18) J S Murphy 7 11.2.....W Marston 73  
**5** 0064-6 HENRY THE GUN (23) R Buckler 5 10.9.....A Thornton 59  
**6** FPPP-1 MIGHTY MINSTER (145)(D,F,P) A Jones 7 10.7.....A Tinkler (3) 69  
**7** 0008-6 LANCER (37)(F) Mr Stephens (7) 62  
**8** 00-004 LANCER (37)(F) J C Tuck 5 10.0.....J Mogford 49  
Star Betting:— 2-2 Rollo, 5-2 Karoo, 4 Grey Shark, 7 Mighty Minster, 12 Valley Warrior, 16 Joliet, 20 He's The Guy'v, Lancer d'Estrual.

2003: Canny Scot, 6-10-12, (T Doyle, 9-4 fav) R Curtis, 12 ran.

**STARFORM: PARSON PLOUGHMAN Danger: Backbeat**

**5.05** williamhill.com NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE Class E (10 flights) 2m6f/1f (8 runners) £4,371

**1** 10-521 KAROO (1) P Nichols 6 11.12.....R Walsh 71  
**2** 05-232 ROLLO (8)(BF,B) A Hobbs 6 11.12.....P J Brennan (3) \*80  
**3** 0000-2 GREY SHARK (16) Keane 5 11.6.....N Fehily 63  
**4** R55P-4 VALLEY WARRIOR (18) J S Murphy 7 11.2.....W Marston 73  
**5** 0064-6 HENRY THE GUN (23) R Buckler 5 10.9.....A Thornton 59  
**6** FPPP-1 MIGHTY MINSTER (145)(D,F,P) A Jones 7 10.7.....A Tinkler (3) 69  
**7** 0008-6 LANCER (37)(F) Mr Stephens (7) 62  
**8** 00-004 LANCER (37)(F) J C Tuck 5 10.0.....J Mogford 49  
Star Betting:— 2-2 Rollo, 5-2 Karoo, 4 Grey Shark, 7 Mighty Minster, 12 Valley Warrior, 16 Joliet, 20 He's The Guy'v, Lancer d'Estrual.

2003: Canny Scot, 6-10-12, (T Doyle, 9-4 fav) R Curtis, 12 ran.

**STARFORM: GREY SHARK Danger: Karoo**

**3.10** COLOROLL HURDLE (GRADE 2) (A) (10 flights) 2m4f (7 runners) £23,200

**MONKERHOSINTH** (6)(BF,F,G,S) P Hobbs 7 11.8.....C Llewellyn \*140  
**ROUBLE AT BAY** (5)(F,G,S) A King 4 11.4.....R Thornton 124  
**CARACCIOOLA** (248)(F,G,S) N Henderson 7 11.0.....M A Fitzgerald 76  
**ILNAMAR** (67)(BF,D,G,S) M Pipe 8 11.0.....J E Moore —  
**KEEPETHEDREAMALIVE** (23)(G) R Buckler 6 11.0.....B Hitchcott 96  
**MONET'S GARDEN** (211)(D,G,S) N Richards 6 11.0.....A Dobbin 129  
**NAWAMEES** (37)(F,G) C Moneys 10 11.0.....L Aspell 133  
Star Betting:— 1-4 Monkerhosint, 3 Monet's Garden, 9-2 Trouble At Bay, 11-2 Ihamar, 7 Nawamees, 10 Keepethedreamalive, 12 Caraccioola.

2003: Mr Cool, 2-11-0, (A McCoy, 7-2) M Pipe, 4 ran.

**MONET'S GARDEN** has met with defeat only once in four starts over hurdles running a cracker in the process to chase home 11th winner Garde Champion at levels (Aintree 2m4f 20yds). The last time he did this was in 2002 when he cashed off Monkerhosint who will continue to lack nothing in fitness. The latter has completed over the last obstacles both starts this term running respectably but failing to translate his best hurdles form when favourite and 3rd in the Paddy Power Gold Cup last Saturday. He was on this level when account.

**STARFORM: MONET'S GARDEN Danger: Monkerhosint**

**BBC2 3.45** WILMAN INTERIORS HANDICAP HURDLE Class D (8 flights) 2m (7 runners) £4,784

**PAPILLON DE IENA** (216)(BF,G) M Pipe 4 11.12.....J E Moore 95  
**FRONTIER** (23)(F,G,T) B Llewellyn 7 11.8.....Mr L Stephens (7) 63  
**ATAHUELPA** (10)(D,G) A King 4 11.7.....R Thornton \*119  
**MONTICELLI** (15)(G) P Hobbs 4 11.7.....C Llewellyn 79  
**MAN FROM HIGHWORTH** (16)(D2,G,S) H Manners 5 11.7.....J A Jenkins (7) 72  
**ALRAFID** (36)(F) G Moore 5 11.3.....P Hide 68  
**INDUCEMENT** (818)(S) R Stronge 8 10.8.....B Fenton —  
Star Betting:— 5-2 Atahuelpa, 7-2 Monticelli, 9-2 Frontier, 11-2 Papillon de Iena, 13-2 Alrad, 7 Man From Highworth, 20 Inducement, 20 Downup, 5-11-3, (D R Dennis, 12-1) I Williams, 8 ran.

**STARFORM: ATAHUELPA Danger: Alrafid**

Atahuelpa is consistent and progressive last time finishing 9th clear of the 3rd when beaten 11f giving 1lb to King. Elder (Huntingdon 2m110yds) Class D 11f 1cap had some solid efforts without winning the Flat this summer. He faces a stiff task at levels with the selection and Frontier has something to find out the same mark as when 16f 7b giving 6lb to Goblet of Fire (Cheltenham 2m110yds) B 1cap/hd/gf.

He made a hard pull with stamina limitations but this easy 2m should not overtax him. Formerly

Monticelli is running in winning start here in an Exeter novice before winning 1st 11f giving 1lb to King. Elder (Huntingdon 2m110yds) Class D 11f 1cap/hd/gf.

He faces a stiff task at levels with the selection and Frontier has something to find out the same mark as when 16f 7b giving 6lb to Goblet of Fire (Cheltenham 2m110yds) B 1cap/hd/gf.

Inducement has 10 wins from 20 starts 13% strike rate at Exeter.

Star Scudamore says What You See (1.20) and Seebald (2.25) are the best form from 20 starts 6% strike rate at Exeter.

Star Scudamore says Azurine (2.40) for R Hannon, 18 from 20 30% at Wolverhampton.

Star Scudamore says Another Cop (1.10) and Adonis (3.35) and Dream & Vision (4.25) for B Wiliams, 4 from 15 27% at Wolverhampton.

Cat Catherides Lady Dona (Watts 1.40) for M R Chapman, 3 from 12 25% at Wolverhampton.

R Winstons rides Grass Widow (1.40) for J Quirin, 3 from 16 19% at Wolverhampton.

R Winstons rides Another Cop (1.10) and Adonis (3.35) for P Howling, 8 from 8 43% at Wolverhampton.

## PUNTER POINTERS

## WHO'S HOT AND NOT

**TERRIFIC TRAINERS:** (Most wins last 14 days) M Pipe 16; P Nichols 13; P Hobbs 9; N Henderson 6; N Richards 5; A Fitzgerald 5; M Lovell 5; A Tinkler 5; A King 4; C Llewellyn 4; C Tuck 4; J Williams 4; C O'Neil 4; J A Osborne 4; Williams 4.

## SUFFERING STABLES: (Runners since last win) M Pipe 14; P Hobbs 13; M Lovell 12; N Henderson 11; N Richards 10; C Llewellyn 9; C Tuck 8; J Williams 7; A King 6; C O'Neil 5; J A Osborne 4; Williams 4.

**STARFORM: RACING DEMON Danger: Sir Rembrandt**

**2.25** (Wolverhampton) Best Mate (treble); 2.50 (Exeter) Best Mate (treble); 2.50 (Wolverhampton) Corniche Dancer (nap).

**CLOCKFORM** 2.25 Sir Rembrandt 2pt win

**ROTWEILER** 1.20 Racing Demon 1.50 Monte Cinto 2.25 Best Mate 3.00 out The Black 3.25 Barton Baron. 4.05 Rollo.

**GOING: Chs: Gd-Gd to Sft in Plcs:Hdls: Gd to Sft JACKPOT & PLACEPOT:** First six races.

**3.35** williamhillpoker.com NOVICES' HANDICAP CH Class E (15 fences) 2m3f/1f (9 runners) £4,826

**1** 1PP-2 D Elsworth 7 11.12.....R Young (3) 52  
**2** 4332-4 S Burrough 6 11.11.....A Thornton 86  
**3** 040-41 P Nichols 9 11.11.....R Walsh 72  
**4** 4125P-5 K George 9 10.9.....A Honeyball (3) 65  
**5** P000-1 R Dearing 6 10.8.....N Fehily 82  
**6** 064P-6 G Ham 8 10.1.....P Flynn —  
**7** 303/UP-7 O Sherwood 6 10.1.....J A McCarthy 34  
**8** 054-5 FP066 Miss H Knight 6 10.0.....T J Murphy \*103  
Star Betting:— 7-4 Parson Ploughman, 9-2 Barton Baron, 11-2 Charles Future, 7 Backseat, 8 Royal China, 9 Big Max, 10 Topol, 25 others.

**2003: No corresponding race.**

**STARFORM: PARSON PLOUGHMAN Danger: Backbeat**

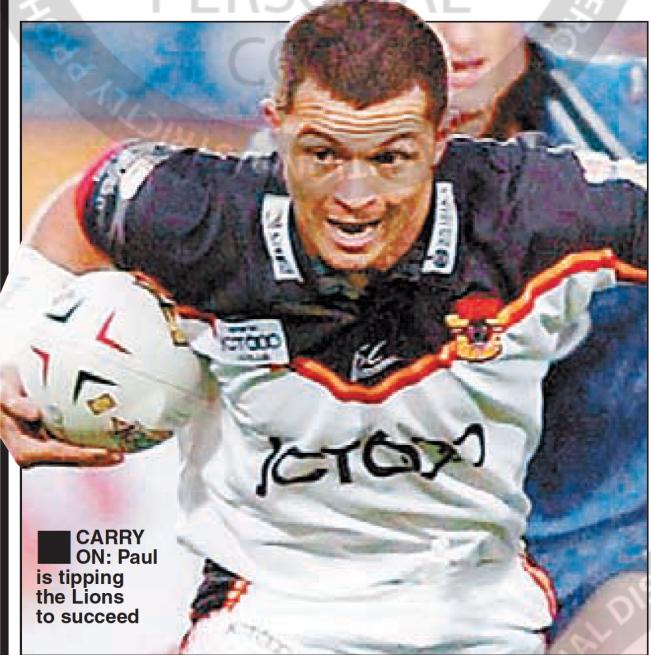
**4.05** williamhill.com NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE Class E (11 flights) 2m6f/1f (8 runners) £4,371

**1** 10-521 KAROO (1) P Nichols 6 11.12.....



Aussies are in for a shock as Brits raise game

# PAUL OVER AS KIWI TIPS GB



**CARRY ON:** Paul is tipping the Lions to succeed

ROBBIE PAUL has backed Great Britain to go on to lift the Tri-Nations trophy after watching them hammer his New Zealand side en route to the final.

The Lions meet the Kiwis again at Hull's KC Stadium in tomorrow's dead rubber, having already booked their place in next weekend's final against Australia thanks to two wins from their first three games in the round-robin event.

New Zealand currently prop up the table with just a solitary point from their draw with Australia.

And despite his disappointment, 28-year-old Paul, who plies his trade with Super League side Bradford, admits a win for the Poms would be a real boost for the game.

#### Success

Paul said: "I think it would be fantastic for the game if Great Britain could come up with a level of success.

"If they walk away with the Tri-Nations competition, it would put Great Britain firmly on the map and enable the game to get that exposure it deserves.

"They've got the team, they've got the individuals, they seem to have the game-plan. However it's going to be tough."

"It could go either way – a bounce of the ball, a

■ by MIKE PLATT

referee's call – that's how tight this tournament is."

Despite the Kiwis' early exit from the competition, Paul believes the series has proved a massive success.

"This competition has been the best showcase for the sport," added Paul.

"The only thing I would change would have been to make it a little drier – it would have been nice to have this competition slap, bang in the middle of the summer.

#### Resting

"All of us inside the sport, we love it, so it's a sure thing – but there's not a person I've spoken to outside the sport who doesn't think that this concept has worked."

Paul also believes Lions coach Brian Noble – his club mentor at the Bulls – is right to take the opportunity of resting a few key players ahead of next week's final.

Noble will give Leeds hooker Matt Diskin his debut against the Kiwis, with Paul Sculthorpe, Jamie Peacock and Terry Newton all sitting out.

Paul added: "They've had to play Australia, New Zealand and obviously Australia again, so I'd be very interested to see what side he puts out."

"I wouldn't be surprised if he takes the opportunity to give a couple of his players a rest, because this isn't club rugby – this is a very, very intense tournament."

## INSIDE RUGBY LEAGUE with PETER WILSON

AMONG a near-capacity crowd at Hull's KC Stadium for tomorrow's dead Test between GB and New Zealand will be one Geoff Carr.

For the sake of the future of the Gillette Tri-Nations series, let us hope he is impressed.

Mr Carr, chief executive of the Australian RL, is worried about player burn-out if the event is held annually. "We don't want to kill the guys off," he said.

But GB players like Andrew Farrell and Jesty Harris have already said what they think – the Tri-Nations is a hit and they want more. Long-term planning has never been rugby league's strong point. Look at

## Kick Carr stalling tactics into touch

the state of the World Cup and the abandoned Lions and Kangaroo tours.

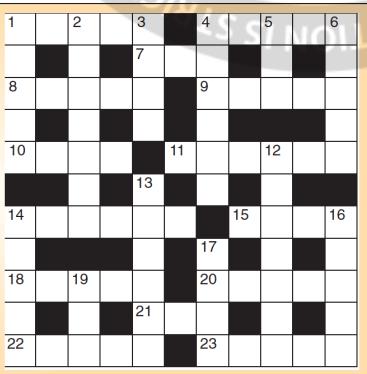
A diplomatic "wait-and-see" from our own chief Richard Lewis will keep the lid on a touchy situation. But there are times when it is right to get angry. This is one of them. □

PROOF Aussies live in a world of their own. They want a ref to be dragged off and replaced if he is having

a hard time – with former players sitting in the stand as adjudicators!

□ SHAUN EDWARDS is now officially Wigan's No.1 season-ticket holder – an honorary title to mark his 15 successful years at the club.

That's one way of showing appreciation. Another would have been to find him a top coaching job instead of losing him to London Wasps.



## SPORTWORD

### DOWN

- Peter ..... New Zealand athlete who won three Olympic gold medals (5)
- Fredi ..... Germany striker who played for Bolton on-loan in 2002 (5)
- .... Guerera, women's 400m silver medalist at the 2000 Olympics (3)
- .... Prost, Formula One world champion on four occasions (5)
- .... Athlete, 1995 Grand National winner (5)
- .... Merckx, Tour de France winner on four occasions (4)
- .... Los, Olympic gymnastics Olympic champion in 1984 (6)
- Greenock based football club (6)
- Ian .... Warwickshire batsman (4)
- Don .... former Leeds United and England manager (5)
- Paul, men's 800m Olympic champion in 1988 (5)
- Douglas, Celtic and Scotland goal-keeper (3)
- Jesse ...., athlete who won four Olympic gold medals in 1936 (5)
- and 19. down. Home of 13 down (5,3)

CALL 0905 072 3266 FOR TODAY'S SOLUTION. Calls cost 75p per min from a BT landline. Turn to Page 75 for Thursday's answers.

## 5 FOR FUN

- Who recently resigned as manager of the Scotland football team?
- Which England footballer, Welsh mother, was born and raised in Canada and has a residential qualification to play for Germany?
- What's "first" in golf did Canadian amateur Ross Somerville achieve in 1934?
- Which horse racing track, founded in 1711, didn't stage its first jump meeting until April 1965?
- On which British golf course would you find bunkers called Cottage, Sutherland and the Principal's Nose?

ANSWERS: See Page 75



SERIOUS: Keith Long (left) and Matt Skelton

## Matt Longs to be No.1

■ by KEVIN FRANCIS

me and I will grasp them – there's no way I am going to mess up."

Since switching ring codes two years ago, Skelton, 35, has notched up 14 wins, including 13 KOs.

His trainer Eugene Maloney said: "He has done everything that has been asked of him."

**PREDICTION:** Win No.15 on the trot for Skelton, about the sixth round.



GET A G-RIP: Fordham tears up Taylor's photo

## I'll turn off The Power

■ by KEVIN FRANCIS

the effects of getting over a broken wrist will not prevent him from delivering a KO blow to 11-time PDC king Taylor.

The pub landlord said: "This will sort out just who is the undisputed king of darts and it's a crown I intend to have at the end of Sunday."

● THE showdown will be screened live on Sky Box Office on Sunday evening.



WHITE: Challenge

## Jules' great White hope

■ by DEAN WILSON

ENGLAND prop Julian White has vowed to put in a vintage performance against South Africa to keep rival Phil Vickery out of the side.

Vickery, who is still working his way to fitness after a back operation, suffered a nasty bang to the head against Wasps last week.

And that has given White the chance to lay down a marker and prove he is a first-choice England front-rower on merit alone.

White, 31, already has 25 caps to his name but the Leicester Tiger knows he needs to put in an epic performance against the powerful Springboks if he is to keep hold of his England jersey.

White said: "Vickery has been injured for a while now and I'm lucky enough to be starting. Now I've got to put in the consistent performances to prove I'm here on my own merit."

"I've got to lay down a marker against the Springboks."

### Perform

"If I want to stay in the starting line-up for England then it is games like this where you've got to perform."

"If you don't perform at this level, then you're not good enough."

"South Africa is a huge challenge and we know all our basics will be tested – lineouts and scrums will be key and we've got to get it right."

"It's time I took a leading role in the side and led by example."

"Each game you want to do that and while I'm here with a chance to keep the jersey I have to make the most of it."

White moved to the Tigers at the start of the season and is enjoying his rugby more than before.

But he knows the new England regime will still expect a lot from him.

He added: "I'm really enjoying the new set-up with England and moving to Leicester was the best thing I could have done."

"Andy Robinson is very passionate about the game and he brings it on to the pitch. He wants to play an exciting style and we've got to take it out there."

"We're under no illusions, it's going to be a huge hurdle this week and we've just got to go out there and do it."

## EXCLUSIVE: England hero Lawrence

# IT WAS HELL... BUT I LOVED IT

LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO says he has done an Alan Shearer. Quit international sport at the top, retired at his peak.

And he won't feel a pang of regret when England run out at Twickenham tomorrow to face old rivals South Africa.

Dallaglio doesn't do regrets. Why should he? For this mountain of a man has broken the back of the game by winning everything.

Like Shearer, he has done it without fuss, been the ultra-professional and, one day – probably in two years when his contract with Wasps expires – he will pump something back into the game.

Dallaglio calls rugby brutal, a sport you can only compare with boxing.

"Boxers put their life at risk when they step into the ring but only do it two or three times a year," said Dallaglio.

"They also do it on their own. Rugby players do it every week with the trust of others around them. It's brutal yet beautiful."

### Terrific

"It's the ultimate team game. A sport when you rely on others. If they don't do it, you can't."

"You have to get yourself to an emotional level for a street fight, a battle, to protect yourself, express yourself and win. You have to inflict wonderful talent and power on your opponent, together."

*"If someone climbs Everest on their own, they have a terrific sense of achievement. But who do they share it with? Do it with a mate and you can relive it 15 years later."*

"That is rugby. You sit in the dressing room afterwards and look at all the distorted faces, not the faces that you went out with. There is often silence because you are knackered and you look at each other and know it's job done. The physical debris is all around you."

"I have been doing this for more than 12 years. So when someone says to me, 'Surprised you're quitting England', I reply 'Hold on a minute, I've been there for a long time, made the sacrifice'."

"We went into our offices on a Monday morning before professional rugby."

"I had meetings covered in stitches and blood but you can't go on at this level like that."

**Dallaglio added:** "I have decided to walk away from England because it's time."

"The more I asked myself the question, I came up with the same answer."

### Selfish

"I was lying on a beach in the summer and it was the first time for years I had real quality moments and I could analyse things."

"I'm 32 and if I knew I would be around for the next World Cup then I would have gone on."

"But it was time to give someone else a chance. Maybe I have been a little selfish yet I know it's right."

There is nothing he has



**PRESSURE:** The strain and emotion shows as Lawrence Dallaglio bursts into tears after England's defeat in Australia

## BRIAN WOOLNOUGH'S B-I-G INTERVIEW



not won in his game, culminating last year in the World Cup with England and the Double of the Heineken Cup and the Zurich Premiership with his beloved Wasps.

Dallaglio relives his career and picks some of his best moments in a new DVD called *Balls and Mauls*.

But no doubt he will still have more to come before he hangs up his boots.

He would love to give the British Lions one more go next summer in New Zealand under Sir Clive Woodward and acknowledges Woodward as the man who made him a better player, who took play-

ing for England on to a new level.

"I was not surprised when Clive announced he was standing down (from the England job) because when I went to him with my decision he was honest about his own situation.

*"It was the only thing he could do. When he took on the Lions his position as England coach became untenable."*

"He could not do both jobs and the RFU should have seen it earlier and told him to take a sabbatical.

"We had all got caught up in the joy of winning the World Cup."

"It doesn't happen very often and it became a

country thing. Lovely moments."

"Clive kept saying, 'Forget about the World Cup but it was difficult.'

Woodward is now linked with football and Dallaglio gives this insight into what he might achieve.

### Level

"We didn't see him in a tracksuit coaching that many times yet his legacy to English rugby is he took it to a professional level, like no-one before," added Dallaglio.

"He went down the specialist route. He employed a specialist kicker for Jonny Wilkinson – a specialist for every aspect of

play and physical feeling."

England football coach Sven Goran Eriksson has a similar method.

"Yes, but Clive employed the right coaches," joked Dallaglio.

"I love football yet it amazes me. They have so many players worth millions and don't give enough attention to detail."

*"They are not prepared to spend enough on getting the best out of the individual."*

"Clive created a structure where the players had no excuses. He gave us every opportunity and made you feel special."

"It is like the Roy Keane thing when he complained

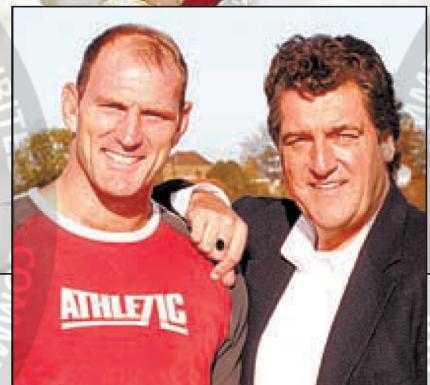
Manchester United was one level and representing Republic of Ireland a step down."

"Clive made sure playing for England was the best feeling in the world. More professional than any club and I don't think that exists in football."

"Do the England footballers feel they are walking into the greatest environment in the world? We did."

"Clearly this is the football direction for Woodward... organising, planning, creating winners."

Dallaglio is also proud that rugby, unlike football, is not dominated by three or four clubs. A wage cap



**RELAXED:** Dallaglio meets Star man Wooly

Players put their lives at risk every week... the physical

# Dallaglio on the brutal world of top rugby



**HARD NUT:**  
The blood pours down his face as Dallaglio continues to lead from the front with Wasps

## WIN Balls and Mauls DVD

LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO has done the lot in the world of rugby.

An incredible career culminated in **THAT** famous victory in Sydney before he took over the England captaincy from Martin Johnson.

He is still starring for Wasps but has taken time out to present a new DVD *Balls and Mauls*.

Available now, it includes some unforgettable highlights, with tries from such greats as Jonah Lomu, Jeremy Guscott and Gareth Edwards.

There are also some crunching challenges from the likes of Johnny Wilkinson, while there are also a fair few punches thrown as Dallaglio takes a look back at famous bust-ups and brawls. This

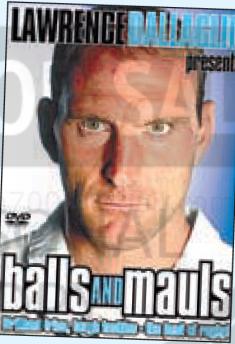
DVD has got the lot and we have done the lot in the world of rugby.

**Who replaced Lawrence Dallaglio as England skipper and then got injured?**

Telephone your answer to **0905 072 0814**, not forgetting to leave your name and address. Or text **DSRUGBY** followed by your answer, name and address to **88833**.

Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline (ave call 90 seconds). Texts cost £1.50 per message plus your usual text tariff.

Lines close at midnight tomorrow. Normal Star rules apply.



has created the competition and he explained: "Rugby has a financial grip on itself."

After Woody, England is now in the hands of Andy Robinson.

*"Andy has been the coach for the last four years and no doubt will make a few tweaks to do things his way," said Dallaglio.*

"He has been virtually running the team and will take the best of Clive and use his own input."

### Wish

Dallaglio won 73 caps, had two stints as captain and quit not long after replacing Martin Johnson as skipper. "I thought of going at the end of the World Cup," he admitted.

"Jonno had indicated to me he was retiring but I thought it would be wrong to go half-way through the season."

"I wish Clive had fought to keep the side together a

bit longer, until the end of the season, and rebuild slowly rather than the surgery needed now."

"I don't think people realise the sacrifices you have to make and I have got a young family I want to see more of. I want to have some fun, like put a pair of skis on for the first time in ten years."

"On the pitch you see the gloss, what goes into getting to that level is hard work."

"When I was 18 I was told by England I wasn't good enough. You have to pick yourself up and get stuck in again."

Dallaglio, of course, names the World Cup as the pinnacle of his career.

"We were a team of hard nosed, experienced individuals at their prime."

"Sacrifices were made and it took years of dedication."

"We now have to be patient with the new

England team. The fans must not expect the same again straight away."

His next ambition is to defend the European Cup with Wasps and then help take his club on to a new level, perhaps as a member of the board.

He added: "I have been lucky to be involved with everything in my career and can take the memories with me, especially those of England team-mates you went to war with."

### Spirit

"I will never forget the camaraderie, the team spirit and sitting with them after the battle was won."

*"I know that in 15 years I can meet them again and share that feeling, an emotion I will never forget."*

"For the rest of my life I will never forget the sheer physical adrenalin of winning a big rugby match."

**debris is there all around**

# IT'S A DANNY OLD GAME

Read Chief Football Writer Danny

Fullbrook every Friday

# Snarling Fergie's final fling



IS Danny right about Fergie? Let him know your views. Text DSDANNY followed by a space then your views to 82100. Texts cost 25p plus normal operator rate. Or send him an e-mail to danny.fullbrook@ dailystar.co.uk

**FRACTIONAL, controversial, dedicated, snarling – and successful.**

All words to describe Sir Alex Ferguson.

There are three others you could easily use – simply a legend.

This may not have been the best season so far for the son of a Govan shipbuilder, but when you look back on his sensational career at Old Trafford you can see that he is one of a kind.

#### Milestone

There is no suggestion that he is about to pack up and leave, as he now enters his rolling contract desperate for more trophies.

But as he fast approaches the milestone of 1,000 games in charge of Manchester United, it is about time to put his wonderful achievements into perspective.

He will reach that breathtaking landmark next Tuesday when United take on French side Lyon at home in the Champions League.

Fergie may have been criticised of late as his beloved United have started

to fall behind Arsenal and Chelsea and critics have chipped away at his reputation.

But Fergie will only really be fully appreciated when he steps down as the Tsar of Old Trafford.

He may be hated and castigated by fans of other clubs, but he is incredibly popular and respected in the world of football.

And the greatest thing

he has from a United point of view is loyalty, to the club and to his players.

*Fergie is more committed to United than any of the hardest nuts on the Streatham End, and would go to the ends of the earth to protect what he considers his own.*

Nobody connected with the club could have envisaged what they had unleashed when Fergie was given the manager's job in November 1986.

Now 18 years later, his success and lifespan at the biggest club in the world will never be matched. Just listen to

## Don't kid yourself Wayne

WAYNE ROONEY will be excused his disrespectful slight to the late Emlyn Hughes.

He will return to the fold of the Manchester United dressing-room, and excuses will be found for him ripping off his black armband after his bad-tempered display in Spain.

It will be argued that he is still young and trying to handle the pressure. Ignorant might be a better word for Rooney at times – but

youth should not be used as a sympathy card.

Arsenal and Spain's teen sensation Cesc Fabregas is still only 17 and taking the Premiership by storm – but there is no sign of youthful petulance within him.

Of course, people and players are not the same. But by comparison Fabregas is a saint compared to Rooney's sinner, and both are incredibly talented footballers.

the roll call of honours he has won. Eight championships, one European Cup, one European Cup-Winners-Cup, five FA Cups, and one League Cup.

Bob Paisley at Liverpool may be the most decorated British manager, having won the European Cup three times, but Fergie's achievements in turning a club around and then building an incredible foundation over almost two decades is just as worthy.

The players he has also brought into the lives of United supporters should also be celebrated. Nobody will ever

forget the likes of Bryan Robson, Steve Bruce, Paul Ince, Mark Hughes, Denis Irwin, and Peter Schmeichel.

Then of course there is Roy Keane and the legendary Eric Cantona, as well as the lethal strikeforce of Teddy Sheringham, Ole Gunnar Solskjær, Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke which

through the youth ranks by David Beckham and Ryan Giggs. It may be his loyalty to Giggs and Scholes which could prove Fergie's ultimate downfall as he may stick by two brilliant club servants for too long because both players look like their careers are on the wane.

The problem of eventually replacing Keane may also be something Fergie never managed to solve.

But United fans should not care less, because in the last 18 years they have been treated to a wonderful roller-coaster of excitement and success straight out of fantasyland.

#### Balance

It all culminated on that balmy night in Barcelon in 1999 when two late goals finally gave Fergie the European title he craved.

The reason that there will never be another Fergie is because there will never be another generation of players that are so synonymous with a manager, the club and the city.

The Neville brothers Gary and Phil, Nicky Butt and Paul Scholes are all local, while they were complemented



## Rangers v Celtic

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# Baros out for month

LIVERPOOL suffered another striker stunner last night when Milan Baros was ruled out for a month.

The Czech international, who has scored 10 goals in 18 games for Liverpool this season, suffered a hamstring injury after just 15 minutes of his country's World Cup qualifying win over Macedonia on Wednesday.

## Move

"Milan has had a scan and we anticipate he will be out for up to three to four weeks," said a Liverpool spokesman last night.

Manager Rafael Benitez's striking resources had already been stretched by Michael Owen's eve-of-season move to Real Madrid and the broken leg suffered by £14m record signing Djibril Cisse. Now he must muddle through until the New Year. The injury crisis has left Sheffield

■ by BILL THORNTON

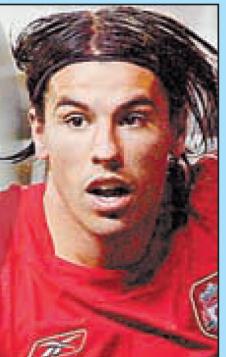
United's interest in reserve striker Neil Mellor on hold, with the 22-year-old set to travel with the Reds to Middlesbrough tomorrow.

The injury to Baros has taken the gloss off skipper Steven Gerrard's recovery from a broken metatarsal.

Gerrard tested his fitness with a 45-minute run-out for the reserves on Monday and will travel to The Riverside, although he is unlikely to be rushed straight back after two months out of action.

■ RUUD Van Nistelrooy has reassured Manchester United he will be fit for tomorrow's lunchtime date with Charlton.

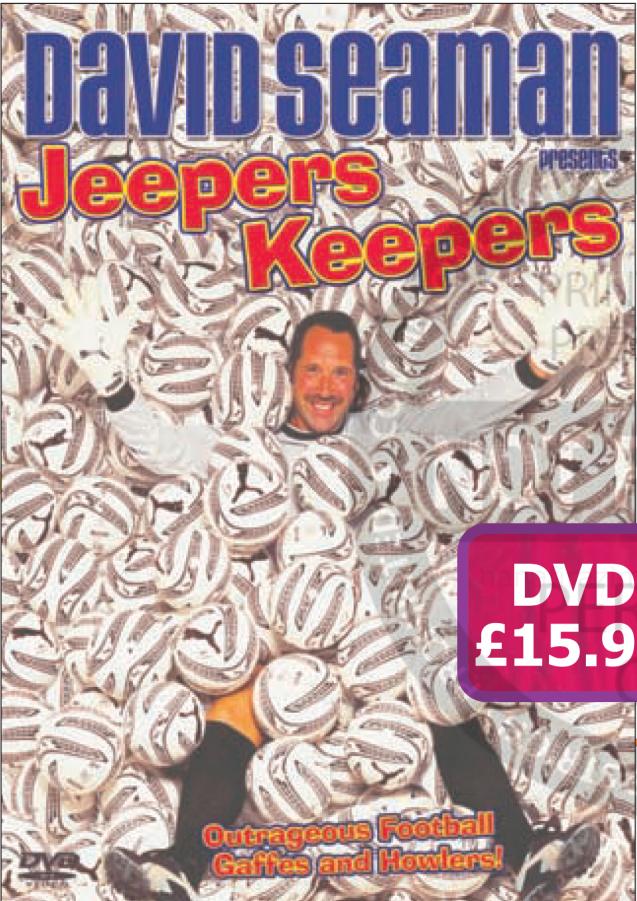
The Dutch striker limped out of Holland's midweek World Cup qualifier in Andorra with a hip injury but arrived in Manchester insisting: "It is just a knock, nothing serious."



BAROS: New injury blow

[woolworths.co.uk](http://woolworths.co.uk)

## New release



WOOLWORTHS



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## SHAME IN SPAIN:

# KICK

## Act now against racist scum – or the game's dead



by BRIAN WOOLNOUGH

Chief Sports Writer

MADRID on Wednesday night has to be used as a turning point for football right across the world.

Racism has no part in society and FIFA, UEFA and all authorities must join as one to act against the morons and scum from Spain.

What we saw and heard throughout England's 1-0 defeat dragged the game's 10-year fight against racism almost back to square one.

### Appalling

It was sickening, shameful... and the worst aspect was the failure of Spanish officials – particularly ignorant coach Luis Aragones – to condemn the actions of the thousands of locals who targeted Arsenal's Ashley Cole and Shaun Wright-Phillips of Manchester City with their appalling behaviour.

What Wright-Phillips had to endure was the worst I have heard anywhere and we must wait to

see if it has damaged him psychologically. To have thousands of people screaming abuse at you because of the colour of your skin is totally unacceptable.

City coach Kevin Keegan needs to do his greatest man-management job on the youngster who was suddenly and unexpectedly thrust into his worst nightmare.

England coach Sven Goran Eriksson was stunned and can be praised for ignoring the taunts by sending on Jermain Defoe when the baton was at its worst.

Eriksson said: "The day I don't send a player on – or take one off – because of the colour of his skin... then football is finished, it is over. Others have won."

"I could not believe what was happening, it was so bad. What these people are doing is taking the fun away from football."

"To be booted when you are not playing well is bad enough – to be jeered for other reasons is awful, simply awful."

"I thought I had seen the last of this four years ago when I was the coach at Lazio. Obviously not."

"I was pleased with Wright-Phillips and Defoe when they went on, considering what was going on around them."

### Ghastly

"The sad thing about this is that football is the loser. It is not football when it comes to this."

The signs of the trouble ahead were there when the ghastly Aragones made his recent racist remark about Arsenal's Thierry Henry and followed it by going berserk at English reporters over the subject of racism on Tuesday.

England's black Under-21 players were abused that night, while the English national anthem was drowned out by whistling and booing Spanish fans.

The scale of the racism, however, took everyone by surprise. Yet arrogant Aragones



TARGET:  
Ashley Cole  
had to endure  
taunts

# Coach refuses to say sorry for outburst

**Nationwide**

# 'EM OUT!



**MAKING A POINT:**  
But England's anti-racism message failed to register with a number of Spain fans



SHOCKED: Neville fury

**Neville:**  
If it was us we'd get ban

■ by DAVID WOODS

ANGRY Gary Neville last night claimed England would be hit with a ban if our fans racially abused players like the Spanish did in Madrid.

Neville said any wrongdoing involving England always provokes widespread condemnation – the likes of which never seems to be dished out to other countries.

"The English seem to be treated differently when it comes to certain issues in football, there is absolutely no doubt about that," said the Manchester United defender.

"You can go down the last three or four years of hooliganism, racism and drugs and our players seem to entice comments from the highest level."

### Surge

"I don't see these people making comments about players from other countries which are doing things wrong."

But hours after Neville's interview, FIFA president Sepp Blatter declared that football must "eradicate this scourge" of racism.

A FIFA statement said: "FIFA are concerned about the latest surge of racism in football and harshly condemns these incidents."

Neville admitted he had been shocked by the racial abuse directed at English players.

"You don't expect that in Spain," he said. "I thought they were an ally of ours."

"I can't understand it. Where it comes from, I don't know."

"All I can say is that if it was England, we would probably be chucked out of the competitions."

refused to criticise his nation's fans. He said: "My conscience is clear and I have no comment to make."

*He was then asked if he condoned what went on. "No comment" again was his reply. "The banner at kick-off said what we have to say and that's it."*

Not once did he show sorrow or regret, not once did he apologise. Here is someone who is allowing racism to run out of control, while others are doing so much to try to beat it.

Aragones should be punished, along with the Spanish football authorities. Drastic action is needed and we are getting to the point when a coach

will march his players off in the ultimate protest.

Louis van Gaal went close when he was manager of Ajax, following sickening treatment towards three of his players – Clarence Seedorf, Patrick Kluivert and Edgar Davids.

He went as far as telling UEFA there would be no game if it happened again.

### Problems

Spain should be told to play their next three matches behind closed doors and see how that dramatic loss of revenue affects their attitude.

A fine is no good, nor a warning. England, of course, have problems of their own and no one is

preaching from a position of power.

The threat of being kicked out of competitions because of hooliganism still hangs over the FA.

Yet just imagine what would have happened had Wednesday's so-called friendly been at home.

We would have been expelled by UEFA and FIFA already.

*The FA are committed to their campaign to beat racism and it was ironic that on two giant screens ahead of Wednesday night's kick-off at the Bernabeu, an anti-racist message was pumped out. It was in English, not in Spanish.*

Meanwhile, journalists sitting in the front row of the press box were spat at by Spanish fans as the crowd became locked in a frenzied time-warp of yesterday's values.

England have experienced racism in Yugoslavia and Slovakia recently but nothing as bad as Wednesday night in Spain.

Yesterday, the FA were in regular touch with FIFA and UEFA demanding action. It has to be taken, and quickly. The authorities must make an example of Spain.

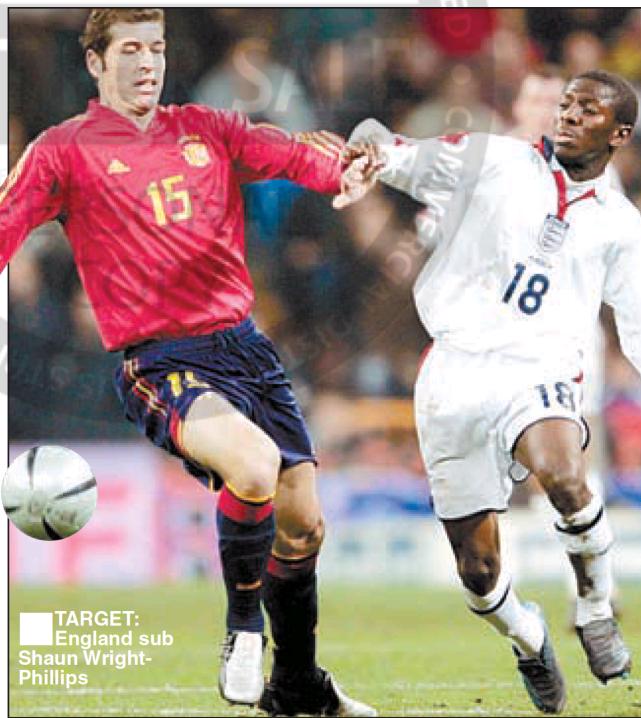
## Weak Spanish FA to blame says Rio

RIO FERDINAND last night blamed the Spanish FA for the racist abuse aimed at England's black players in Madrid.

Ferdinand believes their failure to punish coach Luis Aragones for his racist slur about Arsenal striker Thierry Henry was the catalyst for the sickening incidents.

The Manchester United ace said: "I don't know what the Spanish FA are going to do about it but their manager was never punished for the racist remarks he made last month."

"Maybe that sent out a signal to the fans they would get away unpunished if they did the same thing. The best way to have dealt with it would have been to get a win and ram it down their throats. Unfortunately we couldn't do that."



**TARGET:**  
England sub  
Shaun Wright-Phillips

# SHAME IN SPAIN: Teenage hot-head says sorry

## TEXT MANIACS

Text Dssport followed by a space, then your name and comment, and send to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your normal mobile operator cost.

WAYNE ROONEY IS SCUM. CHUCKING THE BLACK ARMBAND HE HAD ON IN MEMORY OF A LEGEND ON THE DAY OF THE LEGEND'S FUNERAL. HE IS A DISGRACE TO THE CITY OF HIS BIRTH AND THE COUNTRY. **ANDY.LEO.LFC**  
 don't go overboard about the armband. Rooney snapped no disrespect 2 emlyn but men die every day **Gaz**  
 Rooney's a disgrace, drop this petulant child from the next England game, grow up son its an honour 2 play 4 our country not a god given rite. **spidey**  
 Well done sir alex ute turned Rooney into a proper moaning man. **parkers true blue**  
 glad 2 c ferg's son teaching Rooney the art cheating, respect attitude smyb. **Daz nufc**  
 what Rooney did against Spain was disgraceful, just a spoilt little rich kid should be left out of next squad and I'm a red **obey**  
 WOT IS APNIN A 19YR OLD BRAT WHO THROWS OFF A BLACK ARM BAND 4A PRO WHO PUT HIM 2SHAME SORTDABRAT. **ANON**  
 WAYNE (SHRECK) ROONEY IS AN ABSOLUTE DISGRACE 4 WAY E PLAYED N WAT E

DONE WITH HIS BLACK ARMBAND E IS A SPOILT LITTLE KID.

**PHILL ROWLANDS**

fine that t\*\*t Rooney 4 throwing away black armband so little respect  
**RW kent**  
 After last night Rooney should NEVER wear an England shirt again. **TC**  
 Rooney was a disgrace in Madrid! grow up quickly and show what a true pro you really are! smithy 4 England! **phil.hcf**

Emlyn Hughes was worth at least 100 Wayne Rooney's. C'mon with Sven drop this disrespectful thug 4 good. No apologies accepted. **ROBIN**

Rooney is scum for throwing that black arm band away he'll never be half the player Emlyn was rip crazy horse. **danny fc**  
 Rooney's a disgrace. First the SN, next MAN U, now the armband. Should never show face in city again! **PAULY LFC**

Rooney is a disgrace no respect 4 Emlyn. I should be ashamed of myself. **Villa Rev**  
 Did Rooney not realise what the arm band he was wearing was when he threw it off when been taken off, grow up son! **Karlos Haxey, L.F.C.**



BATTLE OF BERNABEU: Wayne Rooney loses his rag and has to be dragged away by his skipper David Beckham

# STOP ROON



CALM DOWN:  
Skipper David  
Beckham tells  
Wayne Rooney to  
cool it as he  
leaves the field

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SVEN GORAN ERIKSSON spent yesterday trying to discover exactly what made Wayne Rooney go loony in Spain.

Rooney and racism made Wednesday night in Madrid a depressing place for all decent followers of football, and something must be done about both.

Eriksson says he will allow Rooney to hide behind his 19 years but that is not good enough.

Rooney for 42 minutes on Wednesday was a loose cannon, a feuding, frustrated teenager, running out of control because he couldn't get his way. He enjoys the spotlight his unique talent brings yet he has obvious responsibilities and we can't keep saying 'He's only a boy'.

Eriksson tried desperately to defend him when he said: 'I don't know why he reacted like he did and he has apologised to everyone for the way he came off the pitch, the whole thing.'

'He must learn from this and will learn. To be frank I am not that worried about it because I don't think it will happen again.'

'What he must do is use his temperament in the right way.'

'In many ways it will be good for him because he knows it must not be repeated. His age is an excuse for me and life goes on. He has to learn.'

### Temper

'What I am more interested in is why it happened and why was there so much hot temper between the two sides? It was certainly not a friendly.'

Eriksson spoke to the temperamental star on England's chartered plane home from Madrid in the early hours of Thursday morning.

*It was more, however, like a father and son chat rather than some one reading the riot act.*

We wait to see if the penny has dropped with this young man who courts controversy just as easily as he finds space in crowded penalty areas and scores goals.

The anger had been building inside him following the heavy early challenge on Joaquin, the push into the back of goalkeeper

by BRIAN  
WOOLNOUGH

er Iker Casillas and feuds with other Spaniards. It then erupted as he stomped off the pitch when Eriksson had enough after 42 minutes.

Rooney tore at anything he could get his hands on, the tape protecting a ring and the black armband all the England players were wearing out of respect to Emlyn Hughes, who died last week and whose funeral was carried out only a few hours before kick off.

*The armband was the ultimate sin by Rooney, showing a lack of self-control and respect.*

Eriksson, of course, saw it differently: 'I don't know whether it is the first time it has happened with England, but he was frustrated.'

'I don't believe he thought whether the armband was black or white, he just did what he did out of frustration.'

### Flashes

'This is the first time we have seen Wayne react this way with England. There have been flashes before, but nothing like this. It was his first time in a stadium like that and he is normally cool.'

Eriksson's decision to haul Rooney off before he was sent off or caused a riot was to his credit.

He could have waited a few minutes until half-time and allowed the sub-

# to England for his night of madness

 Nationwide



MADNESS IN MADRID: Spanish defender Michel Salgado gives Wayne Rooney a mouthful before the England starlet is substituted



## You've gotta learn raps Al

From Back Page  
and bully them, but he should do it in a good way.

"He was petty but the saving grace for him is that he is still young and can learn.

"You will not always get your own way on the pitch and when you don't you have to keep your cool and your discipline.

"Wayne will get criticised but he'll have to realise that not everything will always be rosy in the garden.

"It will be a bigger problem if he does not learn from his mistakes.

"Wayne has to hold his hands up and say, 'I was wrong and I apologise' and learn from it.

"He will learn the hard way. The problem was he was not getting a kick in the game and he wants the ball all the time. They weren't allowing him a kick.

"He was not playing well and he was frustrated and angry and he showed his dissent in the wrong way."

Meanwhile, current England captain David Beckham last night defended Rooney claiming he is still just a teenager and has much to learn.

**Wrong**

Beckham's own tendency to see the red mist descend was vividly illustrated six years ago when he was sent off against Argentina for kicking out at Diego Simeone - effectively ruining England's chances of winning the World Cup.

And he insisted it would be wrong to come down on Rooney.

Becks said: "What people have got to realise is he's only 19. He looks like a man and holds himself like a man, but sometimes things like that happen because he's so young."

"It's not about cutting it out of his game completely because that's part of what he's about and what makes him a great player and loved by so many people."

"By experience, and with the people he has around him, he will calm it down."

"A few players had a word with him on the pitch towards the end of the first half. I think he was upset coming off and it was frustrating for him."

## Cole KO for Real

From Back Page

deal with the abuse - Arsenal legend and his stepfather Ian Wright.

That is the view of ex-England midfielder Carlton Palmer, who played alongside Wright for his country.

Palmer knows that the former Highbury hotshot is the right man to help him through it.

He said: "Ian's reaction to anything like that was always the best - he would just stick the ball in the back of the net."

"That is the best way to answer things like that."

# RAGE OR HE'LL BLOW THE LOT

## Sven and Ferg must stop him doing a Gazza

stitution to look like any other but chose to make an example of this precocious talent.

That alone should act as a lesson to him and we hope it does. Rooney, however, is Gazza without the smile and the signs are not good.

He went looking for trouble too many times against Spain, his opponents going easily when they knew that England's most dangerous forward was lacking self control.

### Mood

"There was some playing by the Spanish," said Eriksson.

Rooney's mood was typical of England's performance... strained, ugly, no rhythm. They simply did not produce the things they are good at.

"We forgot to play football and that is bad for us," added Eriksson.

Rooney must realise and learn quickly that he has so much to lose over the next decade.

Glory and riches wait for him but it will disappear just as quickly if he is not careful.

His manager at Old Trafford, Sir Alex Ferguson, must also help him through his crisis for he needs guidance.

What we saw on

Wednesday night were

signs that here is a kid

who has too much too

soon, and without a clue

how to handle it.



## FANS IN A FURY OVER ARMBAND

LIVERPOOL and England fans have branded Wayne Rooney a "disgrace" after he chucked away his black armband in a fit of temper.

The 19-year-old Manchester United striker was substituted during England's clash with Spain after receiving a yellow card.

But as he left the pitch he ripped off the band, which players were wearing as a mark of respect for former England captain Emlyn Hughes.

Les Lawson, chairman of the Liverpool Supporters' Association, said Rooney should publicly apologise for his actions.

He said: "I was shocked at what he did. It's disgraceful. Wayne showed a complete lack of respect for a former England captain and a football legend."

"I know he was disappointed that he was being substituted, but he needs to learn some manners."

"He needs to make a public apology and not hide behind his captain and his manager."

### Nappy

Hughes' former Liverpool team-mates also slammed his stupidity.

Supersub David Fairclough said: "Emlyn's funeral was a very emotional day for all the players. It was a stupid thing to do."

Defender Tommy Smith added: "He was obviously not playing up to standard and was frustrated. He's probably regretting it now."

Another Liverpool legend, Ian St John, blasted: "Rooney had to be taken off to have his nappy changed. He was just in a huge sulk."

"I don't think for one minute he meant to disrespect Emlyn's memory, but I think he should say sorry. It would be a nice gesture for him to donate something to the charity set up in Emlyn's name."

worst game for England while Gary Neville was more concerned about his on-going war with Jose Reyes of Arsenal.

Everything got to them and, when Greek referee Georges Kasnaferis gave a penalty, Beckham led the entire team in dissent against the decision.

It was a shameful night in so many ways, not one to be proud of.

"I was so disappointed, especially in first half," added Eriksson.

"I was surprised we lost our heads and our shape was too long. We were nervous and it was not football."

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